

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 022603

67

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 022603

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION ON PORTUGAL

1. DEPT SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY DETERIORATING SITUATION
IN PORTUGAL AND WISHES ADDRESSEES TO REQUEST VIEWS OF
HIGHEST APPROPRIATE COMMISSION AND FONOFF OFFICIALS
IN RESPECTIVE CAPITALS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 022603

2. FOLLOWING ARE TALKING POINTS YOU MAY WISH TO USE,

SUBJECT TO YOUR DISCRETION, TO GENERATE SOME INTEREST, CONCERN AND PERHAPS ACTION ON THE PART OF SYMPATHETIC EUROPEANS:

(A) USG DEEPLY CONCERNED BY RECENT EVENTS IN PORTUGAL, ESPECIALLY MOB-CAUSED CANCELLATION OF CDS CONGRESS IN OPORTO, AND BY RELIABLE REPORTS TO EFFECT THAT LEFTISTS WITHIN ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT, SUPPORTED BY COMMUNIST PARTY, PLAN TO TAKE MEASURES SOON TO CONSOLIDATE THEIR POWER;

(B) USG HAS STRONGLY SUPPORTED RESTORATION OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN PORTUGAL AND HAS UNDERTAKEN IMMEDIATE PROGRAM OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AS GESTURE OF OUR SUPPORT AND AS POSITIVE ENCOURAGEMENT TO MODERATE POLITICAL FORCES.

(C) DESPITE ASSURANCES THAT PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS SITUATION IN HAND AND THAT ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AS PLANNED, WE ARE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED BY RECENT STATEMENTS OF AFM LEADERS THAT WOULD SUGGEST THE CONTRARY.

(D) WE WOULD APPRECIATE VIEWS OF RESPECTIVE FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS ON SITUATION IN PORTUGAL AND THOUGHTS AS TO HOW TO STRENGTHEN HAND OF MODERATE FORCES IN GOP AND CONVINCE THEM -- AND GOP AS A WHOLE-- OF SERIOUSNESS OF SITUATION AND DANGER TO WESTERN EUROPE IN GENERAL IF FURTHER SLIPPAGE TO LEFT TAKES PLACE.

3. FOR DUBLIN: ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO IRISH THAT WE ARE NOT IN THIS INSTANCE ASKING THEM TO RELAY INFORMATION IN CAPACITY AS EC PRESIDENT TO OTHER MEMBERS OF EC NINE WHOM WE ARE APPROACHING BILATERALLY.

4. PLEASE REPORT RESULTS YOUR DISCUSSIONS TO USEC OTHER EC-NINE CAPITALS AND LISBON, AS WELL AS TO DEPT. KISSINGER

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